

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 01488 01 OF 02 271451Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-12 OMB-01 AID-05 TRSE-00 /068 W
-----050925 271524Z /47

O 271330Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0832
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USNATO
USIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
USNMR SHAPE
CINCEUR
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ANKARA 1488

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, MASS, TU, US

SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS REPORTS GOT GIVES US A MAY DEADLINE FOR DCA

1. SUMMARY: WEEKEND PRESS IN TURKEY CARRIED SEVERAL
STORIES CLAIMING THAT GOT HAD, DURING RECENT NIMETZ VISIT,
PRESENTED A MAY DEADLINE FOR POSITIVE US ACTION OF LIFTING THE
ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY. STORIES IN FEBRUARY 25 HURRIYET AND
TERCUMAN ARE APPARENTLY BASED ON AN ARTICLE IN WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE
YANKI(PUBLISHED AND EDITED BY LOCAL TIMES MAGAZINE AND NEW YORK
TIMES STRINGER MEHMET ALI KISLALI AND BROTHER OF MINCULTURE). IN
FEBRUARY 26 MILLIYET, NILUFER YALCIN WRITES THAT IF US ARMS EMBARGO
IS NOT LIFTED BY END OF APRIL, TURKEY WILL NOT ATTEND THE MAY NATO
SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON. GUNAYDIN FEBRUARY 26 CARRIES SIMILAR BRIEF RE-
PORT AS COMPANION PIECE TO A LARGER STORY WHICH ACCUSES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANKARA 01488 01 OF 02 271451Z

US OF TWO-FACED BEHAVIOR. END SUMMARY

2. TURKISH WEEKEND PRESS CARRIED SEVERAL STORIES INDICATING
THAT GOT HAD PRESENTED THE RECENT US DELEGATION HEADED BY
STATE DEPARTMENT COUNSELOR NIMETZ WITH A DEADLINE FOR LIFTING OF
THE US ARMS EMBARGO. MASS CIRULATION HURRIYET HEADLINED ITS FRONT-
PAGE STORY FEBRUARY 25, "WE TOLD AMERICA WE WILL WAIT UNTIL MAY".
ACCORDING TO THE TEXT OF THE STORY, GOT HAD, DURING RECENT NIMETZ

VISIT, ASKED FOR TWO THINGS--LIFTING OF THE ARMS EMBARGO AND US ASSISTANCE IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. NIMETZ REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HEARINGS WOULD BEGIN ON THE US-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA) IN MARCH; HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF CONTINUING OPPOSITION TO

THE AGREEMENT IN CONGRESS, A DEFINITE COMMITMENT ON PASSAGE WAS NOT POSSIBLE, GOT SIDE MADE NO THREATS BUT SIMPLY EXPLAINED THAT IT NEEDED

TO KNOW WHAT THE US WAS GOING TO DO BY THE BEGINNING OF MAY. IF THE DCA WERE NOT PASSED BY THAT DATE, TURKEY WOULD NEED TO ARRANGE TO TAKE CARE OF ITS OWN DEFENSE.

3. TERCUMAN FEBRUARY 25 CARRIES SIMILAR ARTICLE AS ITS LEAD STORY UNDER HEADLINE, " WE GAVE A TWO-MONTH PERIOD TO THE US". BOTH THE TERCUMAN STORY AND THE HURRIYET STORY ARE APPARENTLY BASED ON A SIMILAR ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE YANKI, WHICH IS PUBLISHED AND EDITED BY LOCAL TIME MAGAZINE AND NEW YORK TIMES STRINGER MEHMET ALI KISLALI (WHOSE BROTHER, AN RPP DEPUTY, IS IN THE ECEVIT CABINET AS MINCULTURE). THE TERCUMAN STORY CONCLUDES WITH STATEMENT FROM SENIOR TURKISH AUTHORITY TO THE EFFECT THAT ALL UNCERTAINTIES WILL BE RESOLVED WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 01488 02 OF 02 271459Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-12 OMB-01 AID-05 TRSE-00 /068 W
-----050983 271524Z /47

O 271330Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0833

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USNATO

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

CINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 2 OF 2 ANKARA 1488

4. IN MILLIYET'S FEBRUARY 26 EDITION A FRONT-PAGE STORY BY ITS DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT NULIFER YALCIN IS HEADLINED, "IF THE EMBARGO IS NOT LIFTED, WE WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE MAY NATO SUMMIT." ACCORDING TO YALCIN, GOT HAS MADE NO DEFINITE PLANS ABOUT WHAT IT WILL DO IN EVENT THAT THE EMBARGO IS NOT LIFTED BUT "UNDOUBTEDLY ON OF THE FIRST REACTIONS" WILL BE NOT TO ATTEND NATO SUMMIT. YALCIN NOTES THAT WITH THE RETURN OF NIMETZ AND THE ANTICIPATED VISIT TO THE IMF OF A TURKISH DELEGATION, ALL EYES ARE NOW FOCUSED ON WASHINGTON. WHAT HAPPENS THERE IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS WILL AFFECT NOT ONLY US-TURKISH RELATIONS BUT ALSO TURKEY'S POSITION IN THE WORLD AND --PERHAPS--THE WORLD BALANCE. YALCIN QUOTES DIPLOMATIC SOURCES AS SAYING THAT AFTER HIS LONG TALK WITH ECEVIT, NIMETZ RETURNED TO WASHINGTON "UNDERSTANDING ALL THE REALITIES" AND PREPARED TO MAKE EVERY CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANKARA 01488 02 OF 02 271459Z

EFFORT TO OVERCOME DIFFICULTIES. THE MILLIYET ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT THE SITUATION HAS ENTERED A CRITICAL AND DELICATE PERIOD AND THE PARTIES CONCERNED WILL ATTEMPT TO AVOID MAKING PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHICH MIGHT FURTHER AGGRAVATE THE SITUATION.

5. SENSATIONALIST GUNAYDIN FEBRUARY 26 CARRIES A SIMILAR STORY ON ITS FRONT PAGE INDICATING THAT TURKEY WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE NATO SUMMIT IF EMBARGO IS NOT LIFTED. THIS REPORT IS ACCOMPANIED BY A LARGER, MORE SENSATIONAL STORY HEADLINED, "AMERICA'S BEHAVIOR IS TWO-FACED". THE THRUST OF THE GUNAYDIN ALLEGATION IS THAT WHILE US OFFICIALS, INCLUDING NIMETZ, SECRETARY VANCE AND EVEN PRESIDENT CARTER, TALK ABOUT LIFTING THE ARMS EMBARGO, THE US CONTINUES TO APPLY BOTH A MILITARY AND AN ECONOMIC EMBARGO. THE ARTICLE CONTENTS THAT DURING NIMETZ' VISIT THE US WAS ASKED TO ASSIST TURKEY IN RESOLVING ITS ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES BUT ITS ANSWER WAS THAT TURKEY SHOULD FIRST TRY TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH IMF. GUNAYDIN SAYS THAT POLITICAL CIRCLES IN ANKARA INDICATE THAT US COULD PUT PRESSURE ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO ASSIST TURKEY BUT IS NOT DOING SO.

6. COMMENT: DESPITE FACT THAT NONE OF THESE STORIES IS CLEARLY SOURCED TO GOT OFFICIALS, ULTIMATE EFFECT MAY WELL BE TO REDUCE TURKISH FLEXIBILITY IF POSITIVE ACTION IS NOT TAKEN ON DCA BY MID-MAY, ECEVIT MAY WELL FIND HIMSELF UNDER PRESSURE FROM WITHIN HIS OWN PARTY AND THE OPPOSITION TO STAY AWAY FROM THE NATO SUMMIT.

END COMMENT

7. WE BELIEVE PROBLEM OF LIMITATION OF GOT'S FLEXIBILITY IS ONE THAT GOT ITSELF MUST HANDLE. FROM STANDPOINT OF OUR INTERESTS HER, WE BELIEVE US SHOULD STAY OUT OF THE ISSUE TO THE EXTENT IT CAN. WE THEREFORE INTEND TO RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS HERE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: "IN THE TALKS IN ANKARA FEB 22-23, THE US AND TURKISH DELEGATIONS REVIEWED ALL ASPECTS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP. WE HAVE NOTHING TO ADD TO THE STATEMENTS ALREADY MADE ON THIS SUBJECT BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY." (MINISTRY'S STATEMENTS ARE REPORTED IN

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ANKARA 01488 02 OF 02 271459Z

ANKARA 1444DTG241300Z FEB78.) WE WOULD ALSO REMIND QUESTIONER THAT
ADMINISTRATION PLANS TO ASK CONGRESS FOR APPROVAL OF DCA AT
APPROPRIATE TIME.

8. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO DRAW ON ABOVE IN DEALING WITH
QUESTION IF IT ARISES AT NOON BRIEFING. WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION
TO ADDING, IF WASHINGTON SITUATION SO WARRANTS, A STATEMENT THAT NO
THREATS WERE MADE AND NO ULTIMATUM WAS PRESENTED IN THE TALKS. SPIERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, PRESS COMMENTS, EMBARGOES, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ANKARA01488
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780089-0847
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780211/aaaaaiwg.tel
Line Count: 183
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c38508ce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3450420
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS REPORTS GOT GIVES US A MAY DEADLINE FOR DCA
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, SOPN, TU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c38508ce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014